

**NDE Bulletin**  
**February 11, 2010**

**State of the Schools Report (SOSR)**

Contact: Bob Beecham: [Bob.Beecham@nebraska.gov](mailto:Bob.Beecham@nebraska.gov) (402) 471-4740.

**New Graduation and Dropout Rates Posted:** The 2008-09 graduation and dropout rates have been published to the *State of the Schools Report*. These rates use the National Center for Education Statistics formula. The Cohort Four Year Graduation Rate will not be available until [the graduating class of 2011](#).

For more information about the graduation rates, a link called *Current and Future Methods of Calculating Graduation Rates* can be found (scroll down) on the NSSRA Documents page at:

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nssrs/Documents.htm> **Printing Enhancements to the SOSR:**

Enhancements to the Printed Reports feature on the *State of the Schools Report* have just been deployed. Check it out. Contact: [Bob.Beecham@nebraska.gov](mailto:Bob.Beecham@nebraska.gov) (402-471-4740)

**IDEA Submission Reminder –Payment of IDEA Special Education Costs to Districts**

**Contact:** Pete Biaggio (402) 471-4308 or [pete.biaggio@nebraska.gov](mailto:pete.biaggio@nebraska.gov)

Please be aware that there are two methods to obtain Payment for IDEA Special Expenses in the 2009-2010 school years:

1. Claims for **ARRA IDEA** Special Education Costs are processed within The NDE Grants Management System- GMS. The GMS is used for making all ARRA IDEA Special Education payments. The GMS is available through the NDE Portal at <https://portal.nde.state.ne.us>. Supporting documentation is required to receive payments.
2. Claims for **Non- ARRA** IDEA Special Education Costs are processed in paper form. NDE Form 28-052 is available at <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ADSS/NDE28052IDEA.pdf> for those Districts choosing to use IDEA funding (as determined by application) for “new/expanded costs or CEIS costs.” Supporting documentation is required to receive payments. Districts choosing to use IDEA funds (as determined by application ) as Excess cost, **DO NOT** submit requests for funds

**Title I Waiver**

Contact: Randy McIntyre: [Randy.McIntyre@nebraska.gov](mailto:Randy.McIntyre@nebraska.gov) (402) 471-1749

Nebraska is requesting a waiver from the definition of persistently lowest-achieving schools used in the State Fiscal Stabilization Funds and the Section 1003(g) School Improvement Grants. We are requesting permission to exclude schools that have no groups of at least 30 students from the Tier II schools and to consider these small schools as eligible for the School Improvement Grants as Tier III schools. A complete version of the waiver request is found on the NDE ARRA website at:

[http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ARRA/School\\_Improvement\\_Grants.html](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ARRA/School_Improvement_Grants.html) Comments are encouraged and should be submitted via email to [Randy.McIntyre@nebraska.gov](mailto:Randy.McIntyre@nebraska.gov) by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on February 22, 2010

**Study of School Level Expenditures Report**

**The Study of School Level Expenditures (SSLE) report is required of all districts except the two that are not eligible for Title I funds.** The report is to collect the **State and Local** expenditures from 2008-09 by building for personnel (required) and non-personnel (optional). The Study of School Level Expenditures report is in the Consolidated Data Collections found in the NDE Portal under the Data Collections tab. Although the deadline for this report was Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, it is critical that we have data from all districts that are required to report. We have reopened the report for districts that have not submitted or have not approved their report. As of this date, the following districts have not submitted anything:

08-0036-000      LYNCH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

14-0101-000	WYNOT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
22-0011-000	SO SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHS
24-0101-000	SUMNER-EDDYVILLE-MILLER SCHS
27-0594-000	LOGAN VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS
31-0506-000	FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
33-0540-000	SOUTHERN VALLEY SCHOOLS
40-0082-000	NORTHWEST PUBLIC SCHOOLS
48-0303-000	MERIDIAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
49-0050-000	JOHNSON CO CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHS
63-0030-000	TWIN RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
68-0020-000	PERKINS COUNTY SCHOOLS
74-0070-000	HUMBOLDT TABLE ROCK STEINAUER
79-0002-000	MINATARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
80-0005-000	MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
80-0567-000	CENTENNIAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
81-0010-000	GORDON-RUSHVILLE PUBLIC SCHS
83-0500-000	SIOUX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
85-0070-000	THAYER CENTRAL COMMUNITY SCHS

The following districts have submitted, but not approved the collection:

28-0015-000	DOUGLAS CO WEST COMMUNITY SCHS
29-0117-000	DUNDY CO STRATTON PUBLIC SCHS
32-0046-000	MAYWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
34-0001-000	SOUTHERN SCHOOL DIST 1
55-0161-000	RAYMOND CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
62-0063-000	BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
66-0111-000	NEBRASKA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
87-0016-000	UMO N HO N NATION PUBLIC SCHS

## Reminders:

### Annual Data Conference

**New Dates set for NDE Data Conference:** Due to some major scheduling conflicts, we are changing the dates of the 2010 Data Conference from May 3-4 to May 17-18. The conference will begin on Monday, May 17 at 1:00 PM with a presentation by Commissioner Breed. The conference will wrap up mid afternoon on Tuesday May 18. We are now accepting registrations on the conference website at <http://nedatapartnership.org>. A preliminary agenda will be posted to the conference website in early March.

### Nebraska Student and Staff Record System (NSSRS)

#### Several Updates to the NSSRS Validation Website

On February 9<sup>th</sup> you will notice several changes to the NSSRS Validation website including:

- 1) The release of numerous new validation errors. The majority of these errors address issues found within the Special Education Snapshot. New errors in Staff, Program Fact, Post School Survey and Student have also been activated. What's more, you will now see a new message display on the validation home page if there are any errors or warnings for that current year.

- 2) A new “Enrollment Lookup by ID” report has been added to the main page. This report will display the complete, statewide NSSRS enrollment history by NDE Student ID. This tool may be useful in locating students who are “not enrolled; eligible to return”.
  - 3) Verification Reports page will include a new “Contracted Out” report. Additionally, a new “Report Format Choice” feature will allow users to download more than 60% of their reports in Excel.
- Please contact the NDE Helpdesk at 888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov) if you have any questions.

#### **Free and Reduced-price Lunch Data**

After February 9<sup>th</sup>, if you have a need to review student-level Free and Reduced-price Lunch data on the NSSRS Validation website, you will need to contact your District Administrator to obtain the proper NDE Portal activation code. It is important to note that the previous activation code will need to be removed in order for the new activation code to take effect. Please contact the NDE Helpdesk at 888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov) if you have any questions.

#### **2009-10 Curriculum Report: Due February 26, 2010**

It's February so remember to complete the 2009-10 Curriculum Report. Please contact your ESU regarding the schedule for work days. The Curriculum Reporting System can be found under the Data Collections tab on the NDE portal. All public districts, nonpublic systems, state operated systems and ESUs must report information on all teachers, including elementary and preschool. Paper forms will no longer be accepted for the Curriculum Report. There are two options to submit this data: 1) enter data online or 2) upload a data file. Instructions and other information for the 2009-2010 Curriculum Report can be found on the NSSRS Documents web page (<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nssrs/Documents.htm>) under “Other Instructions” or at <http://ess.nde.state.ne.us/DataCenter/DataCollections/Default.htm> then click on [2009/10 Curriculum Report](#). If you have any questions or comments, please contact: Pam Tagart at (402) 471-4735 or [pam.tagart@nebraska.gov](mailto:pam.tagart@nebraska.gov) Kathy Heskett at (402) 471-4738 or [kathy.heskett@nebraska.gov](mailto:kathy.heskett@nebraska.gov)